OFFICIAL PAPERS.

The President of the United States on the 1st instant communicated to the Senate, in answer to a resolution of that body, the following report from the Secretary of State and accompanying docu-

Mr. Seward to the President.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, May 30, 1864.

The Secretary of State, to whom Was referred the reso lution of the Senste of the 28th instant requesting the President to inform that body, "if he shall not deem it incompatible with the public interest, whether he has, and wien, authorized a person, alleged to have committed a crime against Spain, or any of its dependencies, to be delivered up to officers of that Government; and whether such delivery was had; and, if so, under what authority of law or of treaty it was done," has the honor to submit to the President a copy of the papers which are on file or on record in this Department relative to the subject of the

By the act of Congress of the 15th of May, 1820, the African slave trade is declared to be piracy. Fy the ninth article of the treaty of 1842 with Great Britain, it is stipulated that, "whereas, notwithstanding all efforts which msy be made on the coast of Africa for suppressing the alave trade, the facilities for carrying on that traffic, and avoiding the vigilance of cruisers, by the fraudulent use of flags and other means, are so great, and the temptations for pursuing it, while a market can be found for slaves, so strong, as that the desired result may be long delayed, unless all markets be shut against the purchase of African negroes, the parties to this treaty agree that they will unite in all becoming representations and remonstranc's with any and all Powers within whose dominions such markets a e allowed to exist, and that they will urge upon all such Powers the propriety and duty of closing such markets eff-ctually at once and forever."

There being no treaty of extradition between the United States and Spain, nor any act of Congress directing how fugitives from justice in Spanish dominions shall be delivered up, the extradition in the case referred to in the resolution of the Senate is understood by this Depart ment to have been made in virtue of the law of nations and the Constitution of the United States.

Although there is a conflict of authorities concerning the expediency of exercising comity towards a foreign Government by surrendering, at its request, one of its own subjects charged with the commission of crime within its territory, and although it may be conceded that there is no national obligation to make such a surrender upon a demend therefor, unless it is acknowledged by treaty or by statute law, yet a nation is never bound to furnish asylum to dargerous criminals who are offenders against the human race, and it is believed that if, in any case, the comity could with propriety be practised, the one which is understood to have called forth the resolution furnished a just occasion for its exercise. Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD. To the PRESIDENT.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. Savage to Mr. Sward. UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL,

Havana, November 20, 1863 SIR . Over one thousand African negroes were brough to this city a few days since. It is reported that they were landed from a steemship (whose name and nation ality are usknown) in the neighborhood of Cardenas, or S gua. Very prominent and wealthy persons are said to be implicated in this business. I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

THOMAS SAVAGE. Vice Consul General. Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

Secretary of State, Washington. The steamer was not captured. It is believed that she spent to Nassan after landing the negroes.

> Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, November 28, 1863 My Lord: It appears, from information this day re ceived from the Consul General of the United States at Havana, that over one thousand African negroes were recently brought to that city. It is reported that they were I nd d from a steam-hip, whose name and nationality are urknown, in the neighborhood of Cardenas, or Sagus; and that very prominent and wealthy persons are said to be implicated in the business. The steamer was not cap tured. It is believed that she went to Nassau after land-

to the Navy Department.
I have the honor to be, with high censideration, your lordship's obedient servant, WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

The Right Hon. Lord Lyons, &c. &c. &c.

Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE Washington, November 28, 1863. My DEAR LORD LYGNS: I have taken the President's instructions upon the suggestion, communicated in your note of October 15, of Earl Russell concerning a joint or concurrent appeal to be addressed to the Government of Spain for an amendment of her law which tolerates the

bondage of imported Africans landed in Cuba after they have become in form the property of an owner of an estate in that island. If Earl Russell, with his large experience of this evil as d of the d ffi ulty of obtaining a correction of it, will prepare the draught of such a communication as he shall think may properly be addressed to the Spanish Cabinet, the President will, with great pleasure, authorize me to communicate with the Spanish Government in the same sense and spirit with those which shall be adopted by her Britanoic Majesty's Government I shall be thankful if you will inform Earl Russell that the President appreci ates very highly the liberal and humane sentiments which have inspired the suggestion to which I have thus replied. I am, my dear Lord Lyons, very truly yours, WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Right Hon. LORD LYONS, &c. &c. &c.

Lord Lyons to Mr. Seward.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 4, 1864. My DEAR FIR: I did not tail to forward to Lord Rus sell a copy of the letter of the 28th November last, in which me the honor to inform me that if his lordship would prepare the draught of such a communication as might, in his opinion, properly be addressed to the Spanish Cabinet, with a view to procure an amendment of the laws affecting the introduction of slaves into Cubs, the President of the United States would author zo you to communicate with the Government of Spain in the

sense and spirit with those adopted by her Majesty's Gov. Lord Russell has desired me to thank you for taking the President's instructions on this matter at a time whe other pressing affirs must have occupied the attention of the Chief Magistrate. He has also authorized me to communicate to you the enclosed copies of a despatch from her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, and of a note in which, in execution of instructions from her Mejesty's Govern-ment, that Minister has pointed out to the Government of Spain the measures which, to the opinion of her Majesty's Government, are required for the suppression of the Cu-

Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that a similar representation addressed to the Government of Spain by the United States Minister at Madrid would have great weight with the Spanish Cabinet, and they would learn with much satisfaction that the United States representative had been directed to make a communication to the Spanish Minister for foreign affors in the same sense as that made by her Mejesty's Minister in the note of which a copy accompanies this letter.

B teve me to be, my dear sir, your very faithful, humble

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c. &c. &c.

LENCLOSURES 1

The present Captain General of Cuba has acted in good faith in carrying out the treaty obligations of Spain for the suppression of the slave trade, and the Spanish Government appears to have bitherto approved the proceedings of that iffier. The result has been that the number of slaves introduced into Cuba within the twelve months ended the 30th of last September is estimated at from seven to eight thou-and, as compared with eleven the usand two hundred and fi ty four, the number introduced in the corresponding tweive months of the preceding year. This diminution in the Cuban slave traffic would be sat-

isfactory if it were not that it is mainly owing to the exerti us of one individual alone, General Dulce, the present Captain General of Cuba, who, it must be borne in mind

ability, the traffic would again resume its wonted visco.

General Dulce complains bitterly of the want of sufficient power conferred upon him, and of the inadequacy of the provisions of the Spanish penal code for suppressin the Cuban slave trade; and if an officer so well dispose as is the present Captain General of Cuba finds it in ble to put a stop to the importation of slaves into Cubs, it may easily be inferred that a less honorable officer would find ample excuses for the non-performance of his duties in this respect.

In order to put an end to the slave trade in Cuba, it is ecessary that the Spanish Government should take steps for amending the laws prohibiting the introduction of slaves into that island. The existing laws are admitted by the Spanish authorities to be insufficient for the purposes for which they were framed, and, until they are amended, the sincerity and good faith of the Spanish Government will be liable to be called in question.

The 4th and 13th articles of the penal code only serve as

a protection to the slave dealers. The former of these ar-ticles prohibits the seizure by the authorities of any newly imported slaves, no matter how notorious may have been the violation of the Spanish laws in introducing the negroes, if once the slaves have been conveyed to a property

or plantation in the island.

The 13th article, on the other hand, provides that the legal punishment of slave dealers and their accomplices can only be inflicted in virtue of a sentence of the "Royal Audiencia Pretorial," but in consequence of nearly the whole of the population of Cuba, as well as the subordinate authorities, being more or loss m xed up and interested in the slave trace, it is impossible to procure evidence to convict the parties engaged in the traffic, and this article re-

mins therefore entirely inoperative.

Eleven bundred slaves have, as is well known to the Government of the United States, been recently seized by the Captain General of Cubs after they had been successfully landed and conveyed to a plantation in that island. Attempts will doubtless be made to procure their restitution on the ground that they have been illegally seized by the Captain General; but if one of these negroes is given up to the slave dealers, either by the orders of the Spanish Government or by the decision of a judicial tribunal, her Majesty's Government trust that the Government of the States will unite with her Majesty's Government in addressing a serious remonstrance on the subject to the February 4, 1864.

MADRID, DECEMBER 16, 1863.

M. LE MIN'RE: In conformity with the wish expressed by your Excellency, in the conversation which I had the noner of holding with you on the 14th instant upon the ubject of the slave trade in the Island of Quba, I proceed to particularize in writing those measures to which I al-luded as being, in the opinion of her Majesty's Govern-ment, calculated to put a final stop to that deplorable traffic, the adoption of which measures I am instructed to

press upon her Catholic Majesty's Government.

As I had the henor of stating to your Excellency, the Government of the Queen, my mistress, have learned with ex reme satisfaction, from the official reports of her Majesty's consul at Havana, that a considerable diminution in the number of negroes illegally imported into Cuba within the year ending the 5th of September last has taken place as compared with former years, and also that a well-judged amelioration in the treatment of those legally held in slavery there has been encouraged by the authorities of her Catholic Majesty—a measure, as her Majesty's consul re-marks, which has happily combined a regard for humanity and a sensible increase in the productiveness of the plan tamens in which it has been adopted.

Her Maj sty's Government have pleasure in recognising the good will and activity displayed by the present Captain General of Cuba, as well as the measure of his success, in checking the slave trade. It appears, however, that such are the temptations to unprincipled individuals to intro-duce slaves into Cuba, and such the facilities still afforded them by the defects of certain parts of the Spanish laws egarding the subject, that without some medifications in these, his well meant efforts must continue to fall short of

their intended object.

The measures to which her Majesty's Government would call your Excellency's attention are—
1st. An enactment declaring slave trade to be piracy.

This is a measure which has been adopted by many nations including those possessing large numbers of slaves. Its success has been signal in checking the slave trade in countries where it most prevailed. It has mainly contributed to free Brazil from the stigms attaching to this inhuman traffic, and that without any injury to her productiveness or material prosperity. Her. hisjesty's Government are not aware of any sound argument which can be alleged against this measure. 24. A modification of the 9th and 13th articles of the

panish penal code in force in the island of Cuba.
According to the former of these articles, the authorities anot seize imported negroes when once they have been conveyed to a property or plantation, however notorious the fact of such violation of the law having been com mitted may be.

According to the latter, the legal punishment of slave traders and their accomplices can only be infitted in virtue of a sentence by the Royal Audencia Pretorial Now, it is well known that the d fliculty of producing evidence be fore this court is so great, that proof to convict those ac cused of such charges is seldom, if ever, obtained, how ever moral y convinced the ruling sutherities may be of their guilt. It is true that the Captain General has power to remove officers of whose delinquency he feels eer ain, and it is true that the present Captain General Dulce, his predecessor, the Duke de la Torre, and others, have exercertain flagrant how much more effective as regards public opinion, how much more satisfactory to her Catholic Majesty's Governnent, would it be that such punishment and degradation should result from a legal conviction, rather than from the

xeercise of discretional power.

I believe that in stating that the experience of the Duke in Torre, as well as that of General Dulce, have caused hem to coincide in the opinion that the adoption of both the measures to which I have above adverted would be ex-pedient and necessary for the final extirpation of the slave ing the negroes. This intelligence has been communicated rade in Cuba. I am not overstepping the truth in bringing, however, these measures under your Excellency's atten-tion. I feel confident that they will be submitted to the enlightened examination due to the intrinsic merits of the great end they are meant to forward, and also with the most friendly disposition on your Excellency's part to set at rest forever a serious and painful matter of discussion between the Governments of Great Britain and Spain. I sysil, &c. &c.

J F. CRAMPTON.

His Excellency the MARQUIS DE MIRAPLORES, &c. &c.

MADRID, DECEMBER 16 1863. My LORD: In conformity with the instructions con-ained in your lord-hip's despatch of the 19th ultimo, I did ot fail to express to the Ma quis de Miraflores the gration cation of her Majesty's Government at the diminution the slave trade, and the amelioration in the treatment of slaves in Cuba, reported by her Majesty's Acting Consul

ieneral in his despatch to your lordship of September 30. I said that it was satisfactory to know that these im provements resulted from the determination of the present Captain General; and on the Marquis de Mirafieres replyig that Gen Duice, by the manner in which he had acted ad faithfully carried out the wishes of her Catholic Ms esty's Government, I observed that, such being the case I could feel no doubt that his Excellency would take into serious considera ion two measures, which appeared to her Majesty a Government, and, indeed, to all persons acquainted with the subject, were wanting to enable that officer, who does not lack the will, to put a stop at once to the importation of slaves into Cuba, and to realize a wish which his Excellency had so often concurred with me in expressing, that the serious and painful question which vas continually recurring between the two Governments

p regard to this matter should be forever set at rest, The two measures I alluded to were, I said; 1st. An enactment declaring the slave trade to be piracy: 21. The modification of the penal code in force in Cuba, and partiularly of the 9th and 13th articles

With respect to the first of these measures, I observed

that its efficacy had been shown in the case of Brazil, and o reasonable of jection had ever been alleged against it by

e panish Government.
With respect to the second, the 9th and 13th articles of be code acted as a protection to the slave-traders, and de feated the intention of the law and the well intended of forts of the Spanish superior authorities. The Ma quis of Miraflores pr. mised that he would take these matters into his consideration, and assured me that go d will on his part would not be found wanting to do all that was possi

ble to put an end to the slave trade.

As I had referred to particular articles of the penal code, requested me to address him a note, in which they should be particularized, in order that he might be able a once to direct his attention to the points to which her Ma-

1 have consequently, in the note of which I have the honor to enclose a copy, pointed out to the Marquis de Miraflores the effect of the articles 9 and 13 of the code, which are clearly stated in Mr. Crawford's report No. 12, of September 30, 1861, enclosed in your lordship's of that I have, &c. J. F. CRAMPTON. year.

The Earl RUSSELL.

Lord Lyons to Mr. Seward.

WA-HINGTON, FEBRUARY 4, 1864. WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 4, 1864.

FIR: I hastened to communicate to her Majesty's Government the note dated the 21st instant, (28 h November last.) in which you did me the honor to inform me that you had learned from the United States Consul General at Havana that more than one thousand recently imported African negroes had been brought to that city.

Her Majesty's Government had already received intellier co of a steam vessel having left the African coast with a cargo of upwards of 1 100 slaves on board, and also of these slaves baving been landed in Cuba. They have since orn informed by her Majesty's Consul General at Havana that eleven hundred and five of the newly imported slaves have been seized by the Captain General of Cuba. Her Majes y's Government are not at present acquainted with the particulars relative to the vessel from which

s liable to be removed at any moment, when, in all prob- I the slaves were landed, but they will take measures to discover, if possible, the name of the vessel and the paimplicated in her proceedings, and they will be very a obliged if the Government of the United States will municate to them any information on the subject which the United States authorities may be able to furnish.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

LYONS. Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c. &c. &c.

> Mr. F. W. S ward to Mr. Savage. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, February 5, 1864. Sir: Your despatches from 0, 116 to 118, both inclusive, have been received Referring to your despatch No. 110, relating to the landing of certain negroes from Africa, have now to transmit herewith a copy of a note from Lord Lyons, from which you will perceive that the Gov-eroment of Great Britain desires further information in regard to the name of the vessel and the parties implicated in her proceedings. You will have the goodness, therefore, to endeavor to obtain such further information as you can, and communicate it to this I epartment.

I am, sir, your obedient servant, F. W. SEWARD, Assistant Secretary. THOMAS SAVAGE, Esq.
United States Vice Consul General, Havana.

> Mr. Seward to Mr. Koerner. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, February 6, 1864. Sin: By the 9th article of the treaty of Washington of the 9th of August, 1842, between the United States and Great Britain, it is stipulated that the parties will unite in all becoming representations and remonstrances with any and all Powers within whose dominions such markets (for African negroes) are all wed to exist, and that they will urge upon all such Powers the propriety and duty of clos-ing such markets effectually at once and forever. Spain is believed to be the only Christian State in whose

dominions African negroes are now introduced as slaves. She has a treaty with Great Britain stipulating for the suppression of that traffic. The instrument was concluded at a time and under circumstances which, as it seems to us, imposes a peculiar weight of moral obligation on Spain to see that her stipulations were carried into full effect. It is understood, however, that the just expectations of the British Government in that respect have been signally disappointed. This has, no doubt, been mos ly owing to the fact that a great part of the public revenue of Spain has hitherto been derived from Cuba, the prosperity of which island has in some quarters been erroneously supposed to depend upon a continued supply of imported slave labor. This is believed to be the source of the disregard of Cuban slave dealers of the humane policy of the Home Government, and the alleged inefficiency at times of the

We have no treaty with Spain on the subject of the slave trade, but as the laws of the United States characterized it as piracy long before our treaty with Great Britan above referred to, we think ourselves entitled to consider that trade an off-nce against public law, so far as to warrant our faithful compliance with the stipulation contained in that treaty. Herewith I transmit a copy of an informal note on this subject, of the 4th instant, addressed to me by Lord Lyons, and of the papers to which it refers. From these it appears that though the number of Africans introduced into Cuba is diminishing, yet that the municipal laws in force there require amendment before a stoppage of the traffic can be expected. The peculiar relations Great Britain to Spain, with reference to this topic, may justify to the full extent the text of the note of Sir John Crampton to the Marquis of Miraflores. The relations of the United States to Spain, however, are of a different character, but the President authorizes and directs you to address a communication in general terms to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs setting forth the treaty stipu between the United States and Great Britain on this subject, and stating that it would afford the u most satisfaction in this country if any obstacles existing in Cuba to the complete suppression of the African slave trade

I am, sir, your obedient servant. WILLIAM H. SEWARD. GUSTAVUS KOERNER, Esq , &c. &c. &c. Madrid.

Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons DEPARTMENT OF STATE. Washington, February 6, 1864.

My DEAR LORD LYONS: I have the honor to acknow ledge the receipt of your note of the 4th instant commu-nicating the copy of a despatch from her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, and of a note framed under the instructions of ner Majesty's Government, pointing out to the Government of Spain the measures which, in the opinion of her Ma-sty's Government, are required for the suppression of the Cuban elave trada

In reply, I have the honor to acquaint you that, in con formity with the suggestion contained in your note, the Minister of the United States at Madrid has been instructed to address to the panish Minister for Foreign Aff irs a repr sentation in the same sense as that made by her Ma jesty's Minister in the note above referred to.

I am, my dear Lord Lyons, very truly yours.

WILLIAM H SEWARD.

The Right Hon. Lord Lyons, &c. &c &c. P. S -I enclose a copy of my instruction to Mr. Koer

Mr. Koerner to Mr. Seward .- [Extract] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, Madrid February 28, 1864

Some time previous to the receipt of your last, Sr John Crampton had called upon me, and had explained the grounds and the object of the remonstrances which his Government had felt itself compelled to make to the Spanish Government respecting certain failures in the proper execution of treaty stipulations existing between Great Britain and Spain as to the suppression of the slave trade. He also informed me of the President's promises to support the British reclamation, according to the Washington treaty. Subsequent to the receipt of your despatch upon that subject, I had another interview with Sir John, in which he informed me of the conversation and the correspond-ence which he had already had with the Mini-ter of State

on the question, and of his prospects of success.

In pursuance of your despatch, I have addressed a note to Senor Arrazola, the Minister of State, a copy of which have the honor to enclose. I have also furnished a copy to Sir John. I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

GUSTAVUS KOEKNER. Hon. WILLIAM H SEWARD, Secretary of State, Washington.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

Madrid, February 27, 1864. FIR: The subject of suppressing the inhuman African slave trade has been one of deep anxiety to the Govern-ment of the United States from the time of i s foundation The United States have been among the first of nations, it not the first, that have denounced this traffic in human beings as piracy, and have visited their own citizens impli-cated in it with the severest penalties. At very heavy pe-cuniary sacrifices, and at the risk of the lives of their own naval officers and seamen, they have for more than twenty years supported a squadron on the western coast of Africa in a most destructive climate, in order to prevent the suc ceasful carrying on of this nefarious trade. They have with a like view, entered into stipulations with her Britan nic Majesty in the year 1842, contained in what is called the treaty of Washington, the 9th article of which is as

(Here follows the article entire.)
The attention of the President of the United States has lately been directed to certain difficulties which have presented themselves, and which appear to prevent a com plete suppression of the slave trade in the colonial possessions of her Catholic Majesty and more especially in the island of Cuba, which difficulties do not arise from any desire of the Spanish colonial authorities to favor the said trade. It is well known that the efforts made by the Cap tain General of that island correspond entire to the wise and humane policy which the home Government of her Catholic Majesty has adopted in regard to the subject in question, and which is thoroughly appreciated by the Pre-siden, and the people of the United States The difficulties spoken of seem to be inherent in the laws

and regulations in existence which are supposed to give room to interpretations by which their force may be

In view of the general policy of the United States, which ke upon the African slave trade as an off-nce against the public law of nations, and has denounced it as piracy in view, also, of the treaty stipulations existing between them and the Government of her Britannic Majesty, the President of the United States has instructed me to respectfully call the attention of her Catholic Majesty's Government to this subject, and to suggest such a revision of the existing laws and regulations concerning the unlawful introduction of slaves into the island of Cuba as will best accomplish the object which her Majes y's Government had

in view when those laws and regulations were enacted.
It is hardly necessary for the undersigned to assure your Excellency that these suggestions arise from the purest in tives, and would not have been made unless the President had considered the very friendly and cordial re-lations existing between the United States and Spain as justifying this application, and had he not been bound to another friendly nation by engagements which it is his duty

as well as his pleasure to carry out faithfully.

It is almost equally unnecessary for me to inform your the President and the people of the United States if any obsticles existing in the island of Cubs to the complete suppression of the African slave trade should be removed by the considerate action of the Government of her Catholic

The undersigned takes great pleasure to assure &c. Se. dec. GUSTAVUS KOERNER.
His Excellency Senor Don L. & REAZOLA, Minister of State of her Catholic Majesty.

Mr. Savage to Mr. F. W. Seward.

United States Consulate General.

Havana, March 5, 1864.

Sire: In reply to your despatch of the 5th ultime, accompanying a copy of a note from Lord Lyons of the preceding date, I have to state that, notwithstanding the most diligent inquiries among my friends, I have been unable to ascer-tain the name of the steamer that brought the large let of African regrees (upwards of a thousand) captured by the Spanish authorities. There negroes were landed in the district of Colon, on the south side of this island. The steamer had been originally English, came from England to Cadiz, where she was put under Spanish colors, fitted out for the slave trade, and cleared ostensibly for a lawful voy-age to Fernando Po, a Spanish island on the coast Africa.

The negroes were captured on shore by the Lieutenant Governor of the district, and I am confidentially informed that the steamer proceeded again to Africa for another load of the same kind, the necessary stores having been placed on board immediately on the discharge of her cargo. It is said that Don Julian Zulueta, Don Salvador Sania, Marquis f Marianao, the Brigadier Garcia Munoz, and other pro-

nent persons, amongst whom General Concha is mentioned, were interested in that expedition.

Several slave expeditions have been landed for the same parties, but two besides the above have been captured, one of about six hundred negroes and the other of about two buildred, most of the cargo of this latter having been landed, and the vessel conveying them has the appearance of being English built. Dou José Carreras, a partner of Mr. S. Saoia, has been for some time past in confinement, charged with being implicated in these violations of law. Should any further trustworthy information reach me I will no fail to transmit it at the earliest opportunity.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant

THOMAS SAVAGE, Vice Consul General Hon. F. W. SEWARD, Assistant Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, March 11, 1864. My LORD: Recurring to your note of the 4th ultimo pecting the arrival in Havana of a thousand imported for any information on the subject is signified, I have the honor to euclose a copy of a despatch of the 5th instant

from the United States Consul General at that port which relates to the matter. I have the honor to be, with high consideration, my lord, our ob-dient servant, WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

The Right Honorable LORD LYONS, &c. &c. &c.

Mr. Savage to Mr. Seward. CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA, Havana, March 27, 1864.

SIR: I have just returned from an interview had with the Captain General by his request, the object of which was to ascertain if the United States authorities can return to this island the person of an officer of the Spanish army, named Don José Agustin Arguelles, who is believed to be in New York This officer was, in November last, the Lieutenant Governor of the district of Colon, in this island, that effected the capture of the large expedition of African negroes reported by me to the Department on the 20th of November last, despatch No. 107. The Government was highly pleased with his zeal, and paid him \$15,000 for his share of the prize money usually allowed to captors of such expeditions. The officer subsequently obtained a leave of absence of twenty days, upon his representa ion that the object of his journey to New York was to purchase the Spanish journal there published, called La Cronca, has not returned, and since his departure it has been discovered that he and other officers of the district of Colon retained and sold into slavery one hundred and fortyone of the negroes captured by them. Some of these negroes were sold at \$700, and others at \$750 each

The Superior Court of the island, having exclusive jurisdiction over such causes, has taken cognizance of this case, and requires the presentation of Don José Agustin Arguelles before it, to maure the prompt liberat on of these or bundred and forty-one victims. The Captain General gave me to understand that, without Arguelles's presence, it a long time to attain that humane object. His Excellence pronounced Arguelles to be a scoundrel, wors ; than a this or highwayman, inasmuch as he took advantage of his posi-tion as the local authority to commit that outrage with lit-

I told the Captain General that in the absence of an exradit on treaty between the two Governments, or of any law, public or municipal, authorizing the rendition, our Government could not grant the request, but promised lay the matter in this confidential way before you, which desired me to do by the earliest opportunity. I beg of you to consider the subject, and to advise m

at an early day of your views thereupon I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obediend ervant,

THOS SAVAGE, ervant.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD. Secretary of State, Washington.

Mr. Tassara to Mr. Seward. LEGATION OF SPAIN IN WASHINGTON. Washington, April 5, 1864.

The undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of her Catholic Majesty, has received in-

formation of the arrival in this country of an officer of the Spanish army, named Don José Agustin Arguelles, escaped from the Island of Cuba under the charge of having sold The circumstances of the case seem to be as follows

The above named officer was, in November last, Lieutenant Governor of the district of Colon, and effected, whilst in this capacity, the seizure of a large expedition of African negroes. The Government, pleased with his zeal, paid him a large sum as his share of the prize money u-ually al lowed to the exptors of such expeditions. The officer sub-sequently obtained a leave of absence of twenty days to proceed to New York, upon representing that the object of his jurney was to purchase a Spanish journal published in that city, but since his departure it has been discovered hat he and other officers of the district of Colon retained and sold into slavery one hundred and forty-one of the ne groes captured by them. The Superior Court of the island, having exclusive jurisdiction over such causes, has tak-n cognizance of this case, and requires the presence of Arguelles before it to insure the prompt liberation of the one hundred and forty-one victims. Without such presentation it would be very difficult, and, at all events, it would require a long time to a tain that bumane object.

The undersigned is well aware that no extradition treaty exists between the United States and Spain, in virtue of which the surreider of Arguelles to the authorities Cuba might be obtained. Yet considering the gross and scandalous outrage which has been committed, as well as the interests of hum mity at stake in the prompt resolution of this matter, he has not he sitated in submitting the case in this confidential way to the consideration of the United States Government, in order to ascertain whether an in cid-nt so exceptional could not be met with exceptiona m-asures

The undersigned has been the more induced to take this tep, that he has good reason to believe a similar applican to have been made also in a confidential form by the Captain General of Cuba.

The undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to the honorable Secretary of State the assurances of his highest consideration. GABRIEL G. TASSARA.

Hon. W. H. SEWARD, &c. &c. &c. Mr. F. W. Seward to Mr. Savage.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, April 14, 1864. Sin: Your despatch No. 136 has been received, in whi you call attention to the case of Don Jose Agustin Ar-guelles. I am instructed to inform you that if the Captain

will, if possible, be taken to place in his charge the above named individual for the purpose indicated in your des patch. You will immediately communicate the purport of this instruction, in confidence, to the Captain General. I sm, sir, your obedient servant, F. W. SEWARD, Assistant Secretary.

THOMAS SAVAGE, E.q. Vice Consul General of the United States, Havana. Mr. Seward to Mr. Tassara. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

SIR: In acknowledging the receipt of your c indential communication of the 5th instant, I have the bonor to inform you that the Communication of the Strain Communication orm you that the Consul General of the United States at has been instructed to state to his excellency the Captain G-peral of Cuba, that if a suitable officer be sent to New York, such steps as may be proper will be taken to place in his charge, for the purpose indicated in your note, the Spanish officer Don Jose Agustin Arguelles. He pleased to a cept the renewed assurance of my very high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD. Senor Don Gabriel Garcia v Tassaka, &c &c. &c. Washington.

Mr. Savage to Mr. Seward. CONSULATE GENERAL OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Consulate General of United States of America,

**Hayana, April 23, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the reception of despatches from the department, Nos. 70 to 77, both inclusive. I also received yesterday the despatch, No. 79, signed by F. W. Leward, Assistant Secretary, and immediately communicated the purport thereof, in confidence, to the Captain General. He had likewise a despatch from the spanish Minister at Washington, advising him of the interview he had had with you or the subject of the rendiinterview he had had with you on the subject of the rendi-tion of the Spanish officer, Don Jose Arguelles His Exvery much pleased, and very warmly expressed his thanks to me for the promptness with which I had attended to his r quest in this matter. He read me the Spanish Minister's letter, and said that he would send a proper officer to perform the service, who will probably

proceed to New York by the steamer Columbia on Mon-day next, and, un arrival, immediately repair to Washing-ton and place himself under the direction of the Spanish

In this connection I deem it proper to make known to you that the Captain General is under the impression that Arguelles will be surrendered as accused of crime, to be subjected to trial here, in which case, from what I can he will certainly be convicted and sentenced to the chain-gang, which will be the fate of the curate of Colon and three or four others who were accomplices, aiders, and abettors of Arguelles in the nefarious business. I did not say any thing to his Excellency to the contrary, not feel-

ing authorized to do so.

The one hundred and forty-one negroes sold into slavery by Arguelles, as alleged, were represented by him and his accomplices as having died of disease after landing, and the curate of Colon is charged with having made a new register of deaths, wherein those supposed deaths were in-serted. This new register supplanted the regular one, which the Captain General says Arguelles took away, and now has in his possession. Conclusive evidence act is before the court.

I have the honor to remain, with great respect, your bedient servant. THO'S. SAVAGE,

Vice Consul General Hon. WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State, Washington.

[TRANSLATION] Supreme Civil Government of the Ever faithful Island of Cuba, Political Department.

Your EXCELLENCY: In reply to your communication dated 15th instant, (No. 19) I have to say to you that it is convenient that the individual mentioned in your afore-Baid communication to which I have D. Aristides de Santales Commandte graddo Cap. de Infa. de este Ej'to.

Dulce.

Sald communication to which I have the honor to reply, be placed on board the vessel coming immediately to this place, and the persons who are pointed out in the margin of this letter will take charge of

I ask you to make known to his Excellency Secretary seward how much I thank him for his co-operation in this affair, because by it he assists the exposure and pun-ishment of a crime totally distinct from any political mater, the result of which will be that more than two hundred human beings who are growing in slavery will owe to his Excellency the recovery of their freedom.

HAVANA, APRIL 26, 1864. DOM'O DILLCE His Excellency the MINISTER OF SPAIN at Washington

God save your Excellency many years.

[TRANSLATION.] Supreme Civil Government of the Ever-faithful Island of Cuba.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY-Political. MOST EXCELLENT SIR: My aid de camp, with the per son expected, arrived in the steamer Eagle. I request your Excellency to render thanks in my name to Mr. Seward for the service which he has rendered to humanity by furnishing the medium through which a great number of human beings will obtain their freedom, whom the desertion of the person referred to would have reduced to lavery. His presence alone in this island a very few ours has given liberty to eighty-six.

I also render thanks to your Excellency for the efficiency

God preserve your Excellency many years!

DOMINGO DULCE. HAVANA, MAY 19, 1864.

His Excellency the MINISTER OF SPAIN at Washington. Mr. Savage to Mr. Seward .- [Extract.] UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL,

Havana, May 23. 1864. Hazana, May 23 1864.

Sir: In consequence of my temporary illness previous to the sailing of the steamship Eagle from this port for New York, I was unable to inform you of the arrival in Havana, per same steamer from New York, of the late ieutenant governor of Colon, Jose Agustin Arguelles He arrived here at about eight o'clock at night, accompanied by the Captain General's agent and two United States deputy marchals. He was immediately lodged in ail, and was next morning conveyed to Moro Castle, where he still remains. Various rumors were put in cir-culstion on his arrival, which created considerable excitenent One rumor obtained great circulation, that he had een kidnapped from New York, and that the Captain General intended to condemn him to the chain gang

THOMAS SAVAGE. Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

Secretary of State, Washington. THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST RICHMOND.

A BLOODY BATTLE ON FRIDAY.

The assault upon the enemy's works on the Chickshom ny on Friday last was made all along the line, and the confl ct that ensued appears to have been much more sanguinary than would be inferred from the brief official acsount of it that has been given to the public. The army correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing from Headcorrespondent of the New York Tribune, writing from Head-quarters at nine o'clock on Friday night, (3d instant,) re-cords some of the details as follows:

behind their works, a shower of bullets from rebel sharp-shooters instantly quieting every one who exposes himself to their sum Col. Morris, of the 7th New York heavy

still another general engagement, searer to Richmond than any other, and searcely less-bloody than any other. It is the second battle of Cold Harbor, the first being that of day before yesterday. Our loss is between four and five thousand, distributed among the corps as follows: Eighteenth Corps, say 2,000; Second Corps, 1,400; Sixth Corps, 1,000; Fifth and Ninth Corps, say 600 to 1 000.

"A general assault was ordered to be made at half past four o'clock in the morning, and was made promptly at the hour. The relative position of the corps, beginning at the

eft, were in this order; Second Corps, Hancock; Sixth Corps, Wright; Eighteenth Corps, Smith; Fifth Corps, Warren; Ninth Corps, Burnside. Warren and Burnside lid not participate in the assault. Brave as was the attack, and severe as has been the loss, the result is indecisive Generally the line has been materially advanced. Every where we hold closer to the

rebel line. Baldy Smith carried and retains a dictinct, well-entrenched position, and other corps are in possession of detached works, and various positions more or less im-por ant, from which they drove the enemy.

"Hancock charged with Barlow's and Gibbon's division, polding B:rney in reserve in the works from which he moved and protecting his left front. Barlow carried every thing before him, capturing guns, prisoners, and colors; but whether unsupported by corresponding success on his right, or whether he finally met more than any one division could withstand, at length he was forced to relicquish neary all these trophies. Entrenching some distance in advance of

his original position, and resting his left on a swamp per pendicular to the Chickshominy, he has all day maintained a brisk sharp-shooting.

"The affair was splendidly covered by several batteries.
The charge and the withdrawal occupied two or three hours. One battle fleg and two hundred prisoners were brought off. Gibbons's charge on Barlow's right began with a desperate rush, and was met with a resistance so stern, inflicting loss so severe, that, having within the hour carried one line, he too entrenched, and has fought the re-

mainder of the day with artillery and sharpshooters. "Yesterday (Thursday) Hancock, assuming a portion of Wright's front caused Neill's division to be taken from the left to the right of the Sixth Corps, leaving Russell on the left, and Ricketts in the centre. The whole division charged, excepting Russell's Second and Third brigades. Neill and Ricketts gained nearly half a mile, Russell less, owing to his coming upon open ground swept by musketry. Besides, it would not do to advance beyond Gibbon, who

connected with his left. "During the sfternoon, when I visited the Sixth Corps, which had already constructed admirable works, an incautious head exposed never so briefly above any point of the parapet, drew in every instance a shower of builts from

the rebel line, not two bundred yards distant.

"Devin's division having been moved to the right of the Eighteenth Corps, Martindale's became the centre, and Brook's the left, The Eighteenth probably achieved the most decisive success of the day, gaining more ground, and holding it with great tenacity and loss. It should be stated however, that five times as many straggled from it as did from all other corps combined. I account for the as did from all other corps combined. I account for the paradox by the assumption that the officers did their entire uty, and this view is confirmed by the great fatality among

"After the morning assault and the almost simultane desistance from the same, the whole line set to entrenching, while the heavy guns never ceased to play, nor the skirmish lines their bot fusillade, till sunset. But there has been no line-of-battle firing. The position remained unchanged, except that Birney's division was withdrawn from the left and sent to occupy the space between Smith and Warren, giving to the army a connected line of six miles. It is mainly parallel with the Chickshominy, although confusingly zigzag in particular directions, and extends through alternate fields and woodland. I judge the ground to be on the average higher than the enemy's, and

to that extent we have the better position.

"The prisoners taken are from the most diverse commands; from all the corps of Lee's army proper, from Breckinridge, and from three divisions of Beaur-gard, showing that the enemy has used every thing he can com-

"Thirty-two pounders, probably brought from the de-fences of Richmond, opened upon us at daybreak, and dropped shells far to the rear, not only of troops, but of the different headquarters, of the trains, and the hospitals; indeed, every corps headquarters has been under warm free from morning to pick!

A despatch dated at Headquarters of the Army of the version of Friday's battle:

rival of sight hundred and firty prisoners on Friday last at Libby Prison. It says that on Friday fourteen assaults were made by Gen. Grant on the right of their line, held by Kershaw. Hoke, and Breckinridge, all of which were repulsed with great slaughter of the assailants, their own men escaping almost unharmed. The acknowledgment is made that we gained a partial success against Breckinridge, but that they recovered the ground. Our loss, it states, must have been very heavy, and puts it at ten or twelve thousand in this engagement, and says that they took one thousand prisoners.

twelve thousand in this engagement, and says that they took one thousand prisoners.

"The Sentinel further remarks that Gen Grant's object was to gain the strong positions around Gaines's Mills, and open the road to Bottom's Bridge, and connect with Gen. Bu'ler; but that his object has been signally and disastrously defeated. It winds up the article as follows: 'In short, yesterday was a busy day for us, and a dark one for Grant's William of the strong that Grant. We have lost no ground on our right; we have gained largely on our left; and we have taken nearly two fhousand prisoners. We have put hors du combat perhaps tes thousand Yankee soldiers, and we have suffered very

The New York Times comments as follows on the abovementioned battle:

"The battle of Friday last was a much more serious affair, both in its original conception, its actual character, and its final consequences than we had been led to believe from the brief despatches heretofore given to the public. The intention really was that it should be the decisive bat-The intention realty was that it should be the decisive bat-tie of the campaign. The movements of the preceding days, culminating in the possession of Cold Harbor—an important strategic point—had drawn our lines close in front of the Chickatominy, and reduced the military problem to the forcing of the passage of that river—a problem which, if solved in our favor, would decide whether Richmond could be carried by a coup de main, if a decisive victory should attend our arms, or whether operations would

settle down to a siege in form.
"The great struggle did not result in a success; and though the enemy's lines were carried and temporarily held at two important points, our assaulting columns were finally compelled to abandon them. Probably no action so important in its character was ever crowded into so brief a space of time—ten terrible minutes in the early dawn developed on the part of the enemy such strength both of position and force as to carry conviction that any victory that could here be achieved would be purchased at too great a cost. All that matchless valor directed by con-

too great a cost. All that matchless valor directed by con-summate skill could do was done; but it was in vain "In falling back, however, the army was far from aban-doning all the ground it had gained. It held and still holds the enemy with unrelaxing clutch. Even now our lines are in many places within fifty yards of the enemy's works on the Chickahominy, and while it is not clear how Gen. Grant can again make an advance on his immediate front it will be equally difficult for Lee to make his escape. The situation is such that there will necessarily now be very important movements on the part of our army."

FRIDAY EVENING'S ASSAULT.

About nine P. M. the enemy made a charge on our left, attacking the portion of our line held by Col. Smyth's and Owen's brigades of Gibbon's divisions, Second Corps, and also Col. Upton's brigade of Russell's division, Sixth Corps. Gen. Barlow, who was on the front of his line, overheard the rebel officers give the order "fix bayonets," and instantly sent to warn Gen. Gibbon to be on the alert The men were at the moment busily engaged in entreaching, but by the time the enemy came up were perfectly ready to receive him, and repulsed him in handsome style, with severe chastisement for his temerity. Since this repulse all has been quiet.

Saturday, it appears, was comparatively quiet, nothing occurring save the inevitable skirmishing that always takes place when two hostile armies are as close as ours and the rebel army are now. A letter to the Philadelphia Inquirer, dated on Saturday night, says:

or cannot make another approach to Richmond, by flank movement or any strategic man couvre, so as to avoid the necessity of digging our way over the space now interven-ing between us and the rebel capital. What the plans of Generals Grant and Meade are is, of course, unknown.

"At present we are digging like beavers. Our men have fully learned the advantage of this process, and they

hands, a tin oup, or any instrument that comes nearest to "At many parts of our line we have our breastworks almost in contact with those of the enemy, and throughout the whole extent are able to keep them under such a fire that a rebel can scarcely show his head above them without being shot. At a few points they have found their works untenable, and withdrawn to others a short distance in the rear, but we cannot always occupy these abandoned pils, as they are so constructed as to enable the enemy completely to enfilade them from another part of the line. "Our own men, like the rebels are obliged to be quiet

sible for our men to venture out and bring in his body.
"The enemy have disappeared in front of Warren and

"There was no demonstrative movements by either army

secustomed night attack in a furious assault upon Barlow, but, as ever before, was repulsed with severe loss. About midnight be attempted to drive Hancock from his position, and again signally failed. It is ascertained this morning that the enemy has withdrawn his forces from our right front at Bethesda Church, and now and then a cannon shot

born refusal to retire, excites their indignation and setive resistance. No battle was anticipated to-day. Considerable musket firing on our right centre was heard about nine o'clock, the result of which, however, is at this time un-

"Grant speaks with quiet confidence of his ability to

A letter to the Tribune, dated from headquarters at eight o'clock on Monday evening, states that on Sunday there was " constant firing across from one line of works to the other as soon as any portion of a man's body could be seen. The casualties during the day, all from sharpshooters and intermittent artillery, are not less than four hundred. To these must be added between one and two hundred during the night." The same letter says:

" A little after eight o'clock a furious blast rang a fierce discordant meter from the left, where lay Hancock's corps. Judging by the powder burned, it was more than a usually desperate night assault. Soon the following despatch is received:

"Half past eight o'clock P. M.—They at first attacked Wright, but are now rushing down upon me. Apparently no damage. "Tremendous discharges of musketry, and the awfu

it seems to have been brought on by the enemy, as is always the case with these night affairs. He discovered men planting faccines for a new line, and at once assaulted to stop the work; whereupon both sides opened fire right and left. The assault was repulsed easily enough, but neither party seemed inclined to first stop firing, hence its "Au hour later the Eighteenth Corps made some lively shooting, but there was nothing in the nature of an attack.

"During the night the Fifth Corps (Warren's) has been withdrawn from the right, and marched around to the ex-treme left. There will be other changes of position tonight.

"Quite distant and heavy cannonading yesterday after-noon and evening from lower down the Chickshommy, in-dicates that the cavalry is operating in that quarter. I suspect Sheridan has been told to take and hold the bridge till a corps of infantry can be sent there. "Reinforcements continue to arrive. The slightly wounded of the battle of the Wilderness are beginning to

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE REPUBLICANS.

The "Union State Convention of New Hampshire" met at the capital of that State on Tuesday. Er Governor Hale presided. Hon. Onslow Stearns, President of the State Senate; J. B. Clark, Eeq., of Manchester; Ex-

Potomac, on the 7th instant, contains the following robel Governor Hale, and W. E. Sawyer, Erq., were chosen

AFFAIRS ON SATURDAY.

"The question with the army now is, whether we can

work with a will Crawling forward as near the rebel rifle pits as possible, without showing themselves, our sharpshooters having gained a position to their liking, will set to work quietly with the bayonet to loosen up the earth, which they will afterwards scoop out with their

ing in company with Gen Barlow. Col. McKen, of the Sist Pennsylvania, commanding the first brigade of Gib-oon's division, was also shot, and it has as yet been impos-

at another point." Another letter, dated at nine o'clock in the morning of Sunday, sava:

during Saturday. A desultory cannonading was heard on our extreme left, in the direction of Bottom's Bridge, supposed to be the enemy shelling Sheridan in the morning, but it soon ceased. The day was cool, and rain fell in suf-ficient quantities to refresh, and not deluge, the men in hospitals, on picket, and in the trenches.

"Last night about eight o'clock the enemy made his

is heard, probably from our cavalry harassing their retreating column.
"Sheridan's seizure of Bottom's Bridge, and his stub-

capture Richmond-says it is only a question of time."

SKIRMISHING ON SUNDAY.

blasts of coborn mortars continued fifteen or twenty min-utes longer, and then like a ternado breaking into fitful squalls and then clearing into fine weather this tempest of war broke into detached voilies and finally ceased altogether.

delegates to the Baltimore Convention. Resolutions were "The Richmond Sentinel of June 3 announces the arpassed in favor of the re-election of President Lincoln.